

METHODS AND COMPOSITION FOR ORAL VACCINATION

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## ABSTRACT

10 The present invention encompasses methods and compositions both  
for providing protection against disease in an animal and for inducing increased  
intake of an orally administered vaccine by an animal. The methods of the invention  
are directed to admixing a bacterial or viral antigen with a water soluble palatable  
flavorant, further admixing the antigen and flavorant mixture with a water soluble  
vehicle for oral administration of the vaccine to an animal in order to provide  
protection against disease associated with infection by the admixed antigen and to  
15 induce the increased intake of the vaccine with the flavorant.

The present invention thus encompasses methods and compositions for the oral  
vaccination of healthy animals through drinking water or syrups as an aid in the  
prevention of disease. The admixing of the palatable flavorant provides for a vaccine  
formulation with a desirable taste in order to promote self-administration of the  
20 vaccine formulation and/or to prevent rejection of the formulation when administered  
by an animal handler.

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